

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 02487 121651Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /021 W
-----091201 132016Z /12

R 121500Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
SECSTATE WASHDC 1669
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 2487

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINR, IV
SUBJECT: BIO INFORMATION, IVORIAN AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO EGYPT,
MOISE AKA

REF: ABIDJAN 8404

1. DURING RELATIVELY BRIEF TIME I OVERLAPPED WITH AMB. AKA
IN LIBREVILLE (5 MONTHS), I AND MY WIFE CAME TO KNOW THE
AKAS WELL. HE IS A POLISHED DIPLOMAT -- SENSITIVE,
DISCREET, KNOWLEDGEABLE (PARTICULARLY ABOUT AFRICAN
AFFAIRS), GENERALLY OUTGOING WITHOUT BEING EXTROVERT,
INVARIABLY RELAXED, AND POSSESSOR OF GOOD, QUIET SENSE OF
HUMOR. HE TOOK HIS DIPLOMATIC ROLE SERIOUSLY, INCLUDING
EXTRA DUTIES AS VICE DEAN.

2. HE PARTICULARLY ENJOYED HIS TOUR AT THE UN, WHERE HE
FORMED AN EXCELLENT IMPRESSION OF THE UNITED STATES, TO
THE POINT WHERE I WOULD RATE HIM AND HIS WIFE BOTH AS
BEING NOT ONLY PRO-AMERICAN, BUT CONSIDERABLY SO. HE
WAS INTERESTED IN SHARING VIEWS WITH ME AND SHOULD PROVE
TO BE EXCELLENT CONTACT FOR EMBASSY CAIRO. HIS ENGLISH,
LEARNED MOSTLY IN NEW YORK, IS RUSTY AND NEEDS PRACTICE,
BUT IS MODESTLY SERVICEABLE.

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3. HIS WIFE, CONSTANCE, IS SOMETHING OF A RARE GEM
AMONG AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC WIVES. SHE, LIKE HER HUSBAND,
LIKES TO ENTERTAIN, AND DOES IT WELL WITHOUT BEING
OSTENTATIOUS. LIKE HER HUSBAND, SHE ENJOYED NEW YORK
AND HAS WONDERFUL FUNDS OF STORIES TO TELL OF HER EXPER-
IENCES THERE ONCE SHE FEELS SHE KNOWS YOU. HER ENGLISH

IS NOT ON PAR WITH HER HUSBANDS'S, BUT SHE CAN MANAGE.
IN LIBREVILLE, SHE FILLED PARTICULAR ROLE OF UNOFFICIAL
ADVISER, HAND-HOLDER AND GENERAL CONFIDANT OF OTHER
AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC WIVES, AND OFTEN TOOK LEAD IN
ORGANIZING THEM.

4. THE AKAS ARE A FINE DIPLOMATIC COUPLE AND A GREAT
CREDIT TO THE IVROY COAST. AKA WAS REPORTED BY OTHER
AFRICAN DIPLOMATS TO BE FAIRLY CLOSE TO HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY,
AND CERTAINLY SHARES HIS PRESIDENT'S POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC VIEWS. TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

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